(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Meeting were held in the Ministry of Civil Aviation with a view to find out a solution to the poaching of pilots and airlines were asked to finalise a code of conduct among themselves to ensure that flights are not suddenly disrupted causing inconvenience to the passengers. It is understood that no code of conduct could be finalised by airlines.

Air services from Tuticorin

824. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce air service to and from Tuticorin;

(b) what are the non-metro airports in Tamil Nadu in which expansion works are going on at present or development plans are under consideration; and

(c) whether there are any proposals to introduce new flights between Madurai and other metro cities in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (c) Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country including North-East Region. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Guidelines issued by the Government.

(b) The expansion and development works have been taken up at three Non-Metro Airports in Tamil Nadu *i.e.* Madurai, Trichi and Coimbatore. The runways and associated pavements are being extended and strengthened at these airports. New Terminal Building have also been planned at these airports.